He then proposed that the Bill be published in the Gazette with the Statement of Objects and Reasons and that the discussion of the principle be postponed to the next meeting.

The motion was put and agreed to.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

Mr. Rajaram Row.—I beg to move that the Report of the Select Committee on this Bill be taken up for consideration.

Seconded by Mr. Dharmaraja Iyer.

Carried.

Section 2, clause (b), I.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose that the words in parenthesis "(=12 barley corns)" be omitted. These words refer to an old calculation, which is absolutely unscientific. It seems to me that the words might well be left out as the English inch is well-defined.

Seconded by Mr. Kuruvila.

Carried.

Section 2, clause (b), II.

Mr. Govinda Pillai.—I beg to propose that the words "or grain" at the end of the section be omitted. I am afraid this expression will lead to some practical difficulty as there are various kinds of grain, and it will be necessary to mention the particular grain that is meant. There are also different methods of measurement in the case of grains. The words appear to me hardly necessary, as measurement by water referred to in the original section is the simplest process.

Seconded by Mr. Dharmaraja Iyer.

After some discussion, the motion was carried by majority.

Section 3.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose that the term "units" be substituted for "unit standards". The expression used in section 2 is "units" and it is desirable, for the sake of uniformity, to retain the same expression throughout. The term "unit standards" does not occur in the British Act.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Section 4.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose that the words "magnitude and denominations of" be inserted between "declare" and "the" in line 4. These words occur in the British Act and should, I think, be put in for precision of language.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose that in line 5 of this section also, the expression "unit standards" be altered into "units".

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose that the word "integral" occurring in lines 9 and 10 be omitted and "a" substituted for "an" in line 9. I think the retention of this word will cause practical difficulty, as it may not be possible to express the various weights and measures obtaining in the country in terms of the sanctioned units without having recourse to fractions. The amendment is necessary to enable the units to be worked into any system that may be decided on.

Seconded by Mr. Kuruvila.

Carried.

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Section 8, clause (d).

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose that the words "local standards and" be inserted between "verifying" and "weights." These words occur in the British Act and might, in my opinion, be adopted with advantage.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Mr. Rajaram Row.—I beg to propose that the Bill as now amended be read again on a future day of which notice shall be given.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BILL FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to move that the Report of the Select Committee on this Bill be taken up for consideration.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Section 1, clause (2).

Mr. Kuruvila.—With the kind permission of the President, I beg to submit for the consideration of the Council the amendments circulated in my name. Before dealing with each amendment in detail, I beg to assure the Council that I do not suggest these amendments in any spirit of opposition to the principle of the Bill. On the other hand, I yield to none in the appreciation of the noble maxim അഹിംസാ പരമോ ധർമ്മഃ, extending our love and compassion to all creatures that can be imagined as having individual growth or development. My suggestions are simply intended to ensure the proper administration of the proposed Regulation and to prevent the Council appearing to slight cruelty to *men* in its zeal to avert cruelty to the lower *animals*. The Bill before us must be admitted to have certain peculiar characteristics with which the local public are not yet familiar in the ordinary course of legislation. Firstly, the complainant against the guilty action rendered punishable by this Bill is not the sufferer. Secondly, the cruelty and ill-treatment rendered punishable are, to the oriental mind, less heinous than the immediate destruction considered by section 10 as a proper action. Thirdly, the Bill proposes to interpose a third party to sit in judgment over the dealings of an owner with that which he considers his absolute property and in which no other person has a monetary interest. Fourthly, of the five sections defining guilty actions, one alone (section 7) contemplates actions causing material loss to society, while all the others refer to injury to society in the sentimental sphere, making the definitions vague and the judicial discretion not uniform. To prevent public consternation in uncivilised areas, it is therefore very desirable that the legislature should confine the discretionary application of the law by Government to those towns only where the higher public at least have begun to sympathise with the spirit of the Bill. The existence of a public society like the one referred to by the humane mover in his speech at the introduction of the Bill will not only be a guarantee for public support in the administration of the law but will also prevent the Police from sullying their reputation by interference in this direction. The existence of an infirmary, with the services of a professional veterinary surgeon, is also a condition presumed for the administration of section 6 of the Bill. I beg, therefore, to move my first amendment for your kind acceptance, *viz*:—

'In section 1, clause (2), substitute "such towns as have a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals and an infirmary with a professional veterinary surgeon for their treatment" for "such local area as he thinks fit."'

Seconded by Mr. Dharmaraja Iyer.

Mr. Ferguson.—I am afraid I cannot agree to this amendment and I trust the Council will not do so. I hope that this Regulation may be gradually extended to the whole of Travancore but if the amendment now proposed is carried, it will

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